

CLAIMS

The applicant claims:

1. A flashlight, comprising a head, for containing a bulb or bulb assembly from which light is emitted; a barrel, for containing batteries for power supply; a power switch; and a tail cap, wherein said head and said tail cap are each at least 25% larger in diameter than said barrel, said diameters being measured in cross section to the long axis of the flashlight.
- 10 2. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the cross sectional diameter of the head is substantially equal to the cross sectional diameter of the tail cap.
- 15 3. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the end of the head is substantially flat, or slightly concave, such that the flashlight may rest in a stable manner in a vertical position above a supporting surface, with said end facing the supporting surface, and the body of the flashlight extending above said surface.
- 20 4. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the end of the tail cap is substantially flat, or slightly concave, such that the flashlight may rest in a stable manner in a vertical position above a supporting surface, with said end facing the supporting surface, and the body of the flashlight extending above said surface.
- 25 5. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the power switch for operating said light is located in the tail cap.
6. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the surface of the barrel is covered with a non-slippery material to aid in gripping the flashlight.
- 30 7. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the surface of the barrel is knurled, crosshatched, or similarly patterned to aid in gripping the flashlight.

8. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the length of the barrel is sufficient for a person to grasp said barrel with at least 2 fingers between the head and the tail cap.
9. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein the power for lighting the flashlight is supplied by a plurality of batteries or a rechargeable battery pack.
10. The flashlight of claim 9, wherein said batteries are comprised of lithium batteries or a rechargeable battery pack.
- 10 11. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein said flashlight is substantially waterproof.
12. The flashlight of claim 11, wherein said flashlight is rated for 30 meters immersion.
- 15 13. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein all or part of the flashlight except the bulb and batteries is comprised of a structure formed from aluminum or another metallic material, or of a rigid polymer.
14. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein said flashlight may be inserted in a holster with either end first entering, the retention of said flashlight in said holster not being substantially affected or influenced by which end first entered said holster.
- 20 15. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein said bulb is an incandescent light bulb.
- 25 16. The flashlight of claim 1, wherein said bulb assembly is comprised of a light emitting diode or a plurality of light-emitting diodes (LEDs).
17. A lanyard, comprised of an attachment device made of leather, plastic, polymer, or an elastomer such as rubber, silicone or polyurethane, or any combination thereof, wherein one end is designed to fit snugly around the circular outer surface 30 of the flashlight of claim 1; and, at the other end, comprising a loop or molded

tunnel through which a rope-like strand passes, which strand may be knotted together, or otherwise connected via a suitable connector, in one or more locations along the length of said strands.

5 18. A holster for the flashlight of claim 1, which holster comprises:

- A flat surface, itself forming one side of a U-shaped clip for attachment of said holster to a belt;
- A substantially hemispherical enclosure connected to a flat wall comprising the other side of the U-shaped clip, and open at one end;
- 10 Optionally, ribs or bands within said enclosure to assist in the retention of a flashlight;
- Wherein said holster is shaped to accommodate the flashlight of claim 1 in secure fashion.

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